DRINK
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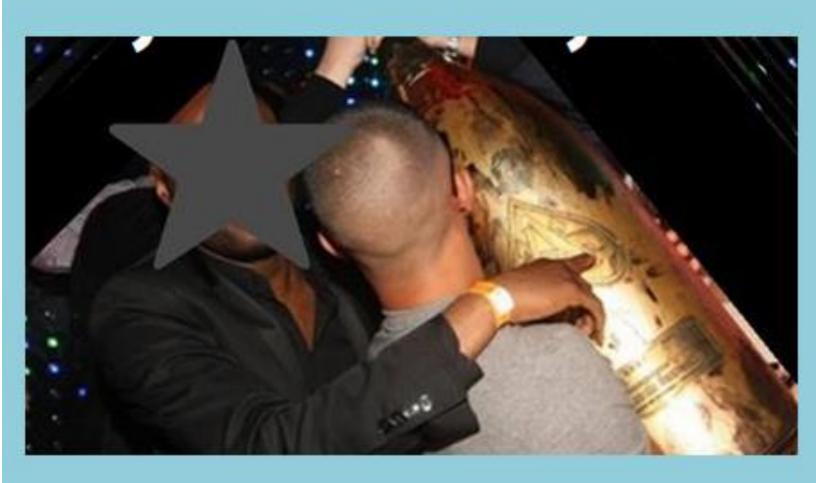
Notes from the APOCRYPHA (1611 KJV)

M. Love

What Does the Apocryphal Book of







FIRST, WHAT IS ALCOHOL?

Generally speaking, any ethanolcontaining intoxicating beverage is considered to be alcohol. Beer, wine, liquor, wine coolers, liqueur, and also moonshine are the basics of alcohol.

Any alcohol has the potential to be dangerous.

"The Strength of Wine"
(The Power of Alcohol)

1 E5DRA5 3:17-24 ...Then began the first, who had spoken of the strength of wine;

18

And he said thus, O ye men, how exceeding strong is wine! it causeth all men to err that drink it:

It maketh the mind of the king and of the

fatherless child to be all one; of the bondman and of the freeman, of the poor man and of the rich:

20

It turneth also every thought into jollity and mirth, so that a man remembereth neither sorrow nor debt:

21 And it maketh every

heart rich, so that a man remembereth neither king nor governor; and it maketh to speak all things by talents:

22

And when they are in their cups, they forget their love both to friends and brethren, and a little after draw out swords: But when they are from the wine, they remember not what they have done.

24

O ye men, is not wine the strongest, that enforceth to do thus? And when he had so spoken, he held his peace.

So, according to the 1611's first book of Esdras, what is wrong with the consumption of alcohol?

 It leads people who drink it to make mistakes and to do wrong things.

(Verse 18)
it causeth all men to
err that drink it

Throughout the years, there have been reports of

various workers who were responsible for providing public transportation having caused serious accidents and deaths simply because they were "under the influence of alcohol".

These accidents included auto and airplane crashes, sunken ships, and even bus collisions. Drivers of these, and other vehicles, made serious mistakes because their vision, reaction times, and

judgment was impaired. The alcohol caused them to err—to do the wrong thing. In some cases, it cost their lives or the lives of their passengers or of others who happened to be nearby.

It breaks down distinctions in status and role.

(Verse 19)

It maketh the mind of the king and of the fatherless child to be all one; of the bondman and of the freeman, of the poor man and of the rich:

It may seem to be

a good thing that everyone could be equal. The fatherless child could be as important as the king and the enslaved or poor could be equal in care and treatment to the free or rich

person. Were that so, alcohol would be a very helpful beverage. Of course it's not and that's not what the verse is saying. To the contrary, it's saying that "wine" (any alcohol) causes people who SHOULD be in

positions of high character, wisdom, honor, and authority to behave as if they were of a very low position. Likewise, the drink makes those who actually are in low situations, such as poverty, to

become arrogant and to think too highly of themselves. It's similar to saying, "That court judge is crawling all over the ground, laughing and vomiting while that beggar is demanding

expensive jewelry, high-fashioned clothes, and the most costly meals!" Positions and situations become clouded as a result of drinking alcohol. Sometimes, even a small amount changes behavior.

 It makes everything seem so insignificant, so funny, and so deliriously fun that drinkers forget sorrows, debts, and respect. Plus, they'll reveal things for money.

(Verses 20, 21)
It turneth also every
thought into jollity and

mirth, so that a man remembereth neither sorrow nor debt: And it maketh every heart rich, so that a man remembereth neither king nor governor; and it maketh to speak all things by talents:

Alcohol causes people to act so foolishly.
Often, everything becomes a joke and

nothing is serious or important to them at the time. They could be losing their jobs or homes and, rather than praying, thinking, or planning their next move, they allow booze to overshadow their realities. Also, with lowered inhibitions,

they'll run their mouths and reveal information, according to this passage, for pay. Actually, they'll do the same free too. Not all, but many drinkers become as chatter boxes and wanna'-be philosophers.

 It destroys family and friend relationships and prompts fights. Then it causes amnesia of all its destruction.

(Verses 22, 23)
And when they are in their cups, they forget their love both to friends and brethren, and a little after draw out swords: But when they are from the

wine, they remember not what they have done.

Mess! It creates the kind of messes which are so messy that relationships are permanently destroyed. When the chaos is all over, the drinker often doesn't even remember what happened.

Additional Issues with Alcohol:

 Alcohol causes poor health and even death of users and victims of users.

 Alcoholic beverages cost money which could used to help rather than to hurt.

- "Drinking" often becomes a difficult addiction to manage.
- Alcohol is strongly encouraged in certain neighborhoods, but the revenue from it very rarely goes into the same communities.



For Thought:

1

Have you known anyone whose health suffered as a result of drinking alcohol?

2

Have you ever found yourself drinking, becoming sick from it (a condition known as a hangover) and promising (yourself, friends, or even God) that you would not

ever drink again, but did drink at some later time?

3

What are biblical passages sometimes used to justify consumption of alcohol?

For The Record:

Drinking alcohol, as with most anything else, is a personal choice for adults. The presented scriptural passage provides reasons to consider one's perspective on drinking.